

Application No. 10/761,294
Docket No. 1020/0134PUS1
Reply AF dated Nov. 1, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application, with claims 1 and 17 being independent. Claim 1 has been amended to more appropriately define the present invention. Applicant respectfully submits that the claim amendment places the application in condition for allowance, and thus requests entry of the amendment and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application.

Examiner Interview

Applicant thanks the Examiner for extending the courtesy of conducting a telephonic interview with Applicant's representatives. During the interview, amendments were discussed to overcome the § 112, second paragraph, rejection of independent claim 1.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication on page 3 of the outstanding Office Action that claims 1-16 would be allowable. For at least the reasons detailed below, all pending claims should be considered allowed.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant has amended the claims in an effort to clarify the claims. In addition,

Application No. 10/761,294
Docket No. 1020/0134PUS1
Reply AF dated Nov. 1, 2006

Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments have not been made to overcome any prior art and therefore, the amendments to the claims do not narrow the scope of the claims.

CONCLUSION

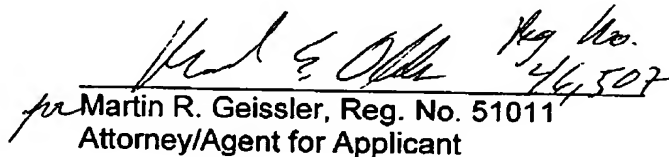
Applicant has made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Martin R. Geissler, Applicant's Attorney, at 1.703.621.7140 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3828 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Date: November 1, 2006

Respectfully Submitted,


for Martin R. Geissler, Reg. No. 51011
Attorney/Agent for Applicant

McGrath, Geissler, Olds & Richardson, PLLC
PO Box 1364
Fairfax, VA 22038-1364
Tel. 1.703.621.7140